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SUBJECT: GREECE UNDECIDED ON CANDIDATE FOR IOM DIRECTOR
GENERAL

REF: STATE 54562

Sensitive but Unclassified-Protect Accordingly

1. (SBU) On 23 May poloff delivered reftel demarche to Loukas Tsokos, First Secretary at the MFA D1 Directorate of UN and International Organizations. The D1 office forwarded the talking points to George Panagiotidis, the MFA official in charge of all candidate solicitations. Poloff followed up on June 2 with Mr. Panagiotidis who said the GOG was still undecided on the upcoming vote but that they were going to support either Ambassador Swing or the Italian nominee, Luca Riccardi. He demurred when asked what criteria Greece would use to distinguish between the two or when Greek position would be finalized.

COMMENT

2. (SBU) If forced to choose between a U.S. candidate and a candidate from a close EU country, the Greeks are likely to favor the latter.
SPECKHARD